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# H.R. 3018 – Family Self-Sufficiency Act of 2007

### FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3018 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Judy Biggert (R-IL) on July 12, 2008. The bill was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, but was never considered.

H.R. 3018 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 23, 2008.

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 3018 amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to revise requirements regarding the administrative fee payable to public housing agencies (PHAs) to cover the cost of administering Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) programs.

The bill establishes a base fee for PHAs which serve 25 or more program participants. This fee will be equal to the cost of employing one full-time family self-sufficiency coordinator. An additional fee is created for those agencies which have 75 or more participants (the cost of a second coordinator) and 125 or more participants (the cost of a third coordinator).

H.R. 3018 allows the Secretary to reserve certain amounts to provide support of reward family self-sufficiency programs which are particularly innovative or successful in meeting program goals. The bill also authorizes \$10 million to conduct a study on the effectiveness of well-run Family Self-Sufficiency programs.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Family Self-Sufficiency is a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program which encourages communities to help local families receiving HUD vouchers to obtain employment leading to economic independence. FSS was established by Congress in 1990 in the National Affordable Housing Act

This program is administered locally by public housing agencies via FSS coordinators. FSS coordinators work with families to help them pursue education, child care, develop job skills, and obtain employment. Any family which receives assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher is eligible to participate in the FSS program. PHAs primarily rely on their own local funds to operate the FSS program, although HUD does provide some funding for FSS coordinators, which will be increased under this legislation.

<u>Department of Housing and Urban Development – Family Self-Sufficiency</u>

# COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not produced a cost estimate for H.R. 3018 as of September 22, 2008.

## STAFF CONTACT

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